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Latent function of education pdf

What is a latent function of education. Latent function of education examples.

The purpose of education is deeply rooted in societal context. A crucial question in pedagogical sciences revolves around the aim of education, which stems from each society's vision of the kind of person it wants to shape. This goal is influenced by various determinants such as society and its relations, value systems, educational development, philosophical and political understanding, globalization, tradition, and individual needs, desires, and interests. Functionalists view education as a vital social institution, with manifest (intended) and latent (unintended) functions. The intended functions include socialization, where students learn societal roles beyond the school setting. This process begins in preschool and kindergarten, teaching children to interact with others and prepare for adult economic roles. Additionally, schools transmit societal rules and norms, initially promoting dominant cultures but increasingly embracing diverse cultural norms. Manifest functions also involve transmitting core values through social control, such as teaching conformity to law and respect for authority, which fosters a sense of obedience towards teachers and administrators. Schools are structured like bureaucracies, teaching children the "hidden curriculum." This prepares them for the workplace and life outside of school. Teachers play a crucial role in fulfilling this function. Education also provides a means for social mobility by allowing individuals from all backgrounds to earn credentials that can improve their future prospects. This aspect is known as social placement. Colleges and graduate schools are seen as a way to advance students' careers, leading to financial freedom and security. As a result, college students may focus on studying areas that they believe will benefit them financially and socially. Education also fulfills latent functions beyond formal education. For instance, the educational setting can facilitate courtship and social connections that might last for years. It introduces students to professional networks that can help them find jobs after graduation. With the rise of social media platforms like Facebook and LinkedIn, maintaining these networks is easier than ever. Another latent function of education is learning to work in small groups, a valuable skill transferable to the workplace. The educational system, particularly on university campuses, traditionally provides an environment for students to learn about various social issues. This setting offers opportunities for social and political advocacy as well as personal development. The campus views reflected the spirit of unity among students across the United States during the 2011 Occupy Wall Street movement, which aimed to shift the country's political climate through demonstrations and diverse group efforts. Social advocacy can manifest in various ways, from joining development programs to supporting non-profit clubs at one's school. The functionalist theory highlights education's role in fulfilling both apparent and hidden functions. Functionalists believe that schools play a crucial role in shaping students' values and behaviors. One fundamental value instilled in American students is individualism – prioritizing the individual over group or societal interests. Conversely, countries like Japan and China emphasize group harmony over individual achievements. This cultural difference is reflected in how schools foster self-esteem in the US versus social esteem in Japan. US schools prepare students for competition, whether through athletics or academic pursuits, while also teaching patriotism by having students recite the Pledge of Allegiance and learn about national heroes. However, this practice has become a topic of debate in recent years, sparking concerns about its appropriateness in modern society. Some experts argue that requiring kids to recite the pledge in schools may be against the law and face challenges in court. Schools, according to certain theories, also sort students based on how well they're doing academically or their potential. This means that the smartest kids are identified early through tests and good grades, and then put into special programs to help them get into college. However, many sociologists disagree with this approach because it can have more negative effects than positive ones. Some even think schools are taking over some of the things families used to do, like teaching kids about sex and how to manage money and find a job. A concept known as social placement suggests that education can help people improve their social status.